

1. Take a moment to go around the circle and describe what this last week has been like for you (if you are by yourself, spend some time in meditation examining what this last week has been like for you). Feel free to say 'pass'. Close this time by praying for each other.

2. Read Colossians 2:6-12 slowly.

*<sup>6</sup> So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, <sup>7</sup> rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.*

*<sup>8</sup> See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the elemental spiritual forces of this world rather than on Christ.*

*<sup>9</sup> For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form, <sup>10</sup> and in Christ you have been brought to fullness. He is the head over every power and authority. <sup>11</sup> In him you were also circumcised with a circumcision not performed by human hands. Your whole self ruled by the flesh was put off when you were circumcised by Christ, <sup>12</sup> having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through your faith in the working of God, who raised him from the dead.*

3. What have the Christians in Colossae "received"? How did Paul speak more fully into this earlier in the letter? (answer found in: Colossians 1:15-20)
4. Have you received Christ Jesus as Lord? Do you remember when you first expressed this verbally to another person, or group of people? How do you express it today, perhaps without words?
5. How does the "humanist" story differ from the "biblical" story?
6. Is your small group helping you to "hold unswervingly to the hope you have in Christ Jesus", and to "spur one another on toward love and good deeds"? (Hebrews 10:23-24)
7. Read Colossians 3:1-14 again, after asking the following questions (if you don't have time to do this within the group, encourage each other to do so prior to going to bed this evening):
  - Is there anything in this passage that nudges you to adore God?
  - Is there anything in this passage that nudges you to confess sin?
  - Is there anything in this passage that nudges you to give thanks?
  - Is there anything in this passage that nudges you to petition God?